

Message Text

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71

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00

PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01

PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 NEA-14 ACDA-19 IO-14 A-01 OPR-02

SY-04 OC-06 CCO-00 SCCT-02 SAM-01 SAB-01 AEC-11

AID-20 CEA-02 CIEP-02 COME-00 EB-11 FEA-02 FPC-01

INT-08 OMB-01 SCI-06 STR-08 TRSE-00 NIC-01 DRC-01

/223 W

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Z O 292135Z MAY 74

FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC FLASH 4321

INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS NIACT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LONDON NIACT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA NIACT IMMEDIATE

USMISSION NATO NIACT IMMEDIATE

SEC DEF WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE

USCINCEUR

CINUSAFE

CINCUSAREUR

USDOCOSOUTH

USMR SHAPE

CINCUSNAVEUR

COMSIXTHFLT

C O N F I D E N T I A L ANKARA 4128

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PBOR, MOPS, TU, GR

SUBJ: GREEK-TURKISH AEGEAN DISPUTE

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REF: (A) ATHENS 3221 (B) ATHENS 3226 (NOTAL)

1. AS REPORTED ANKARA 4126 AND FBIS KYRENIA M291119, GOT DID ANNOUNCE TURKISH NAVAL OCEANOGRAPHIC VESSEL WAS TO SAIL AT 3 P.M. LOCAL TIME TODAY FOR AEGEAN OIL EXPLORATION.

2. AS TO UPI STATEMENT (CITED IN REF A) THAT OCEANOGRAPHIC VESSEL ACCOMPANIED BY "FLOTILLA", WE HAVE BEEN UNABLE TO FIND ANY CONFIRMATION SO FAR:

A. SENIOR OFFICER OF MFA (YAVUZALP), WHEN WE CONTACTED HIM BY TELEPHONE AT HOME THIS EVENING, SAID HE COULD NOT CONFIRM THAT RESEARCH VESSEL WAS ESCORTED. HE SPECULATED THAT IF ANY NAVAL COMBAT-TYPE VESSELS HAD LEFT GOLCUK, REASON WOULD BE EXERCISE "GOOD FRIENDSHIP" WHICH WILL BEGIN IN AEGEAN SUNDAY.

B. ALUSNA WAS IN VICINITY OF GOLCUK NAVAL BASE THIS MORNING

AND DISCUSSED SHIP MOVEMENTS WITH KNOWLEDGEABLE PERSONNEL.

NO MAJOR SHIP MOVEMENTS WERE KNOWN OR ANTICIPATED AT THAT TIME (10 A.M. LOCAL).

C. IN TELEPHONE CHECK AT 11 PM LOCAL MAY 29, ALUSNA'S GOLCUK ARA CONTACTS INDICATED NO CHANGE IN EARLIER SITUATION. UPDATED INFOR FROM NON-GOT SOURCES WILL BE AVAILABLE AT 8:30 AM LOCAL MAY 30, AND ALASNA HAS APPOINTMENT WITH TURKISH NAVAL FORCES OPERATIONS SECTION AFTERNOON MAY 30 WHICH MAY PRODUCE ADDITIONAL DATA.

D. UPI REFERENCE TO "CRUISERS" IS ON ITS FACE INACCURATE,

SINCE TURKISH NAVY HAS NO CRUISERS.

3. OUR EXPERIENCE WITH UPI ISTANBUL REPORTING IS THAT IT IS

NOT ALWAYS RELIABLE.

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30 JUN 2005

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